

United States Attorney's Office District of Columbia

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MAN FOUND GUILTY OF SEVEN CHARGES IN CONNECTION WITH BANK ROBBERY SPREE

WASHINGTON - A 51-year-old District of Columbia man, Mark Stubblefield, was convicted today by a federal jury of six counts of bank robbery and one count of attempted bank robbery, all of which occurred during a three-month bank robbery spree in 2008, U.S. Attorney Jeffrey A. Taylor, Joseph Persichini, Jr., Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Washington Field Office, and Metropolitan Police Department Chief Cathy L. Lanier announced.

The verdicts followed a three-week trial before the Honorable Henry H. Kennedy, Jr. in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. The government's evidence established that between January 29, 2008, and April 21, 2008, Stubblefield robbed Washington First Bank three times, United Bank two times, and Commerce Bank one time. He also attempted to rob Urban Trust Bank. All of the banks are located in the downtown area of Washington, D.C.

During each of the robberies, Stubblefield either said or did something that led the victims to believe that he was armed. He stole over \$15,000 from the banks. The government's evidence also proved that the defendant robbed a branch of the Bank of America in Arlington, Virginia, on April 25, 2008, as part of his spree.

Stubblefield's sentencing is scheduled for May 15, 2009. He faces a possible sentence of up to 20 years for each robbery.

In announcing the verdicts, U.S. Attorney Taylor, FBI Assistant Director in Charge Persichini, and MPD Chief Lanier commended the exceptional investigative work of Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent Luis DeJesus and Metropolitan Police Detective Elmer Baylor, and the entire joint FBI/MPD Bank Robbery Task Force. They also praised the work of Metropolitan Police Officer Michael Bialeski, who provided essential assistance throughout the trial. They additionally recognized the work of Paralegals Taryn

McLaughlin and Quiynh Ha, who provided technical support during trial, and Victim Advocates Jennifer Garner and Yvonne Bryant, who worked with over a dozen civilian witnesses who testified at trial. They also thanked Paralegals Kim Hall, Barbara Necastro, and Phaylyn Hunt, and Legal Assistants LaToya Wade and Priscilla Hutson, all of whom provided administrative support. Lastly, they commended Assistant U.S. Attorneys Catherine K. Connelly and Stephanie Brooker, who investigated and are prosecuting the case.

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